

The Birth of Christ
AM Service Isaiah 9:2 Dec. 24, 2017

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Introduction

*Isa 9:2 The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light;
Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death,
Upon them a light has shined.*

When?

1. Prophecy of Jacob

*Gen 49:10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
Nor a lawgiver from between his feet,
Until Shiloh comes;
And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.*

2. Prophecy of Daniel

Four Ways to tell when Christ was born

1. We can count back from the year in which we are living.
2. We can take St. Luke's account of the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Jesus was thirty years old.
3. We can go back to Jacob's prophecy about Judah and Shiloh, and trace out from that.
4. We can take Daniel's prophecy of the seventy weeks and find out how exactly that points us to when Christ was born.

Where?

Micah 5:2 – Matthew 2:1-2

Caesar Augustus

“The Stable”

How?

1. Strange Neglect – Strange Attention

2. Strange Poverty – Strange Riches

3. Strange Humiliation – Strange Glory

Why?

1. God's Thoughts

- a. God thinks little of places.
- b. God thinks little of riches.

2. God's Feelings

- a. God's feelings about sin
- b. God's feelings about sinners

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

“When we think of the birth and death of Christ, of the manger and the cross, we have the best illustration that can be given of the meaning of this precious passage. And this is what the apostle means when he says, "Herein is love,"-the evidence, or proof of love-"not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10). Jesus was born to tell us of God's love; and then, that we might tell others, tell all people that God loves them.” Richard Newton

How about you?

*Jesus paid it all.
All to Him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain.
He washed it white as snow.*